#### (12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

## (19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



# 24 SEP 2004

### (43) International Publication Date 2 October 2003 (02.10.2003)

#### **PCT**

## (10) International Publication Number WO 03/081487 A1

(51) International Patent Classification7: 153/00, 17/30

G06F 17/60,

- (21) International Application Number: PCT/AU03/00355
- (22) International Filing Date: 24 March 2003 (24.03.2003)
- (25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data: 60/367,207

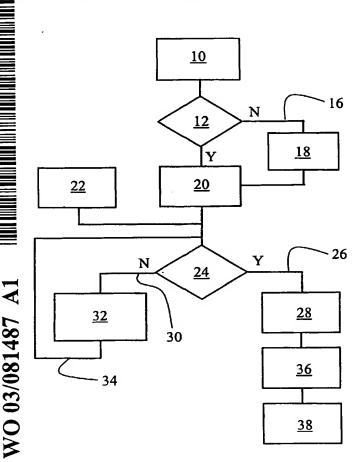
25 March 2002 (25.03.2002) US

- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): RIVERS-DALE DISTRIBUTORS PTY LTD [AU/AU]; Level 6, 616 St Kilda Road, Melbourne, Victoria 3004 (AU).
- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): GOLDSCHLAGER, Leslie, Michael [AU/AU]; 9 Sorrett Avenue, Malvern, Victoria 3144 (AU).

- (74) Agent: GRIFFITH HACK; 509 St Kilda Road, Melbourne, Victoria 3004 (AU).
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR STORING AND RETRIEVING ITEMS



(57) Abstract: The invention provides a recomprising for storing and retrieving items, the methods comprising: grouping the items into one or more groups of the items; recording the content of each of the groups; comparing a batch of one or more orders for the items with the recorded content of the groups in order to locate a matching group from the groups that matches the batch or orders; and retrieving the matching group in order to fill the batch of orders.